

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 1454.1203
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/DE00/01788	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE May 31, 2000	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 10/08/99 75 June 15, 1999
TITLE OF INVENTION METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR VERIFYING THE AUTHENTICITY OF A FIRST COMMUNICATION PARTICIPANTS IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Günther HORN et al.		
<p>Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to immediately begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (PCT Article 31). 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 7. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the Annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). <p>Items 10-15 below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 11. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. <p>Please mail the recorded assignment document to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> the person whose signature, name & address appears at the bottom of this document. b. <input type="checkbox"/> the following: 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification 14. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: First page of published International Application; Preliminary Examination Report; International Search Report; Letter to the Examiner Requesting Approval of Changes to the Drawings. 		

10/009975

JC07 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 DEC 2001

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	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+\$280.00	0.00
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO\$1,040				890.00
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	<input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provision of PCT Article 33(1)-(4).....\$ 710				
	<input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2) to (4)\$ 100				
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			TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS		890.00
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- Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-3935 in the Amount of \$ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3935. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

SUBMITTED BY: STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Type Name	Mark J. Henry	Reg. No.	36,162
Signature	<i>Mark J. Henry</i>	Date	Dec. 17, 2001

4/PRTS

10/009975

Docket No.: 1454.1203

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

PCT National Phase of PCT/DE00/01788

Günther HORN et al.

Serial No. Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Confirmation No.

Filed: Examiner: To be assigned

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR VERIFYING THE AUTHENTICITY OF A FIRST
COMMUNICATION PARTICIPANTS IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

LETTER TO THE EXAMINER REQUESTING
APPROVAL OF THE CHANGES TO THE DRAWINGS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner having jurisdiction over the subject application approve the amendments to the drawings as indicated in RED on the attached copy of Figures 1, 2 and 4.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: Dec. 17, 2001By: Mark J. Henry
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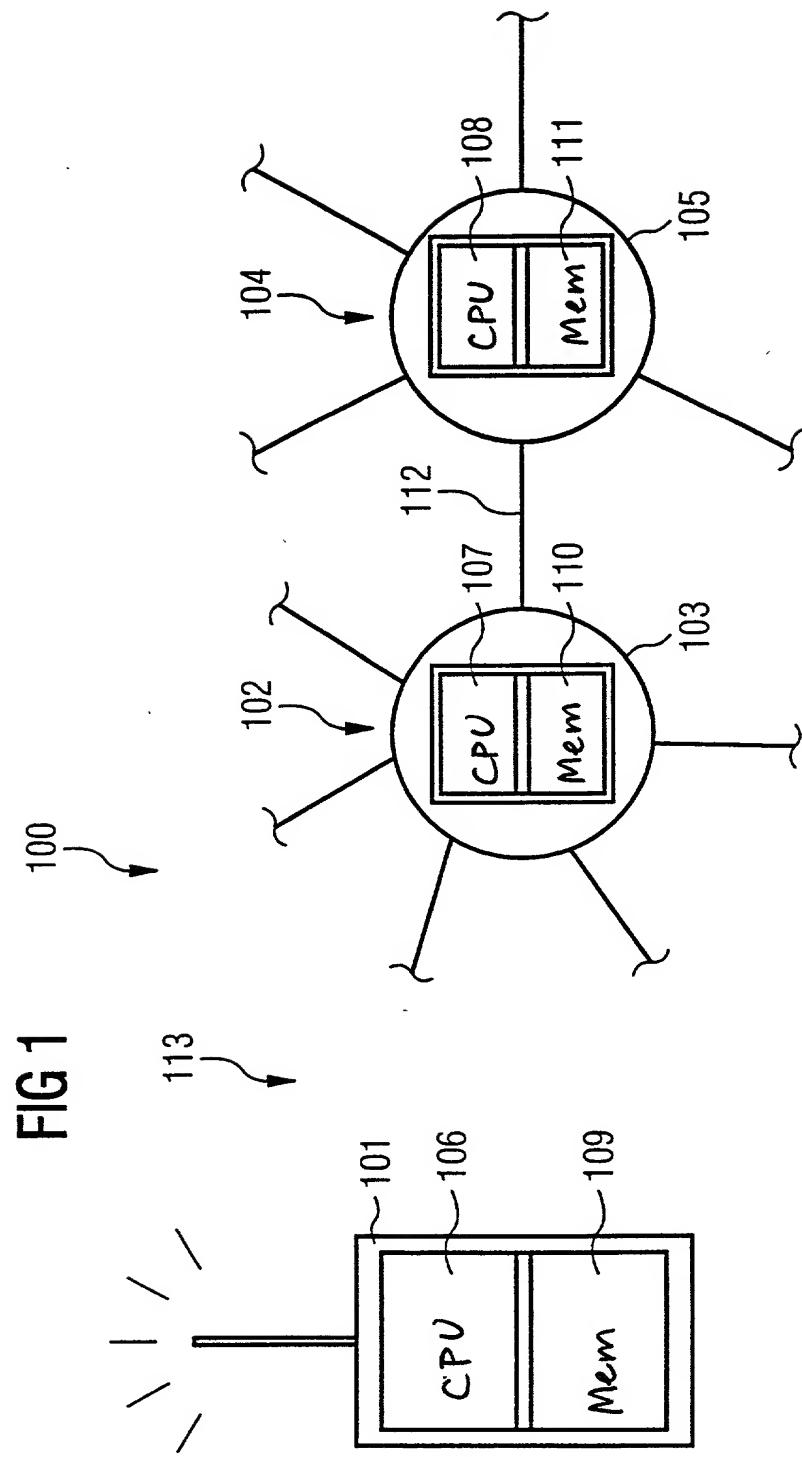
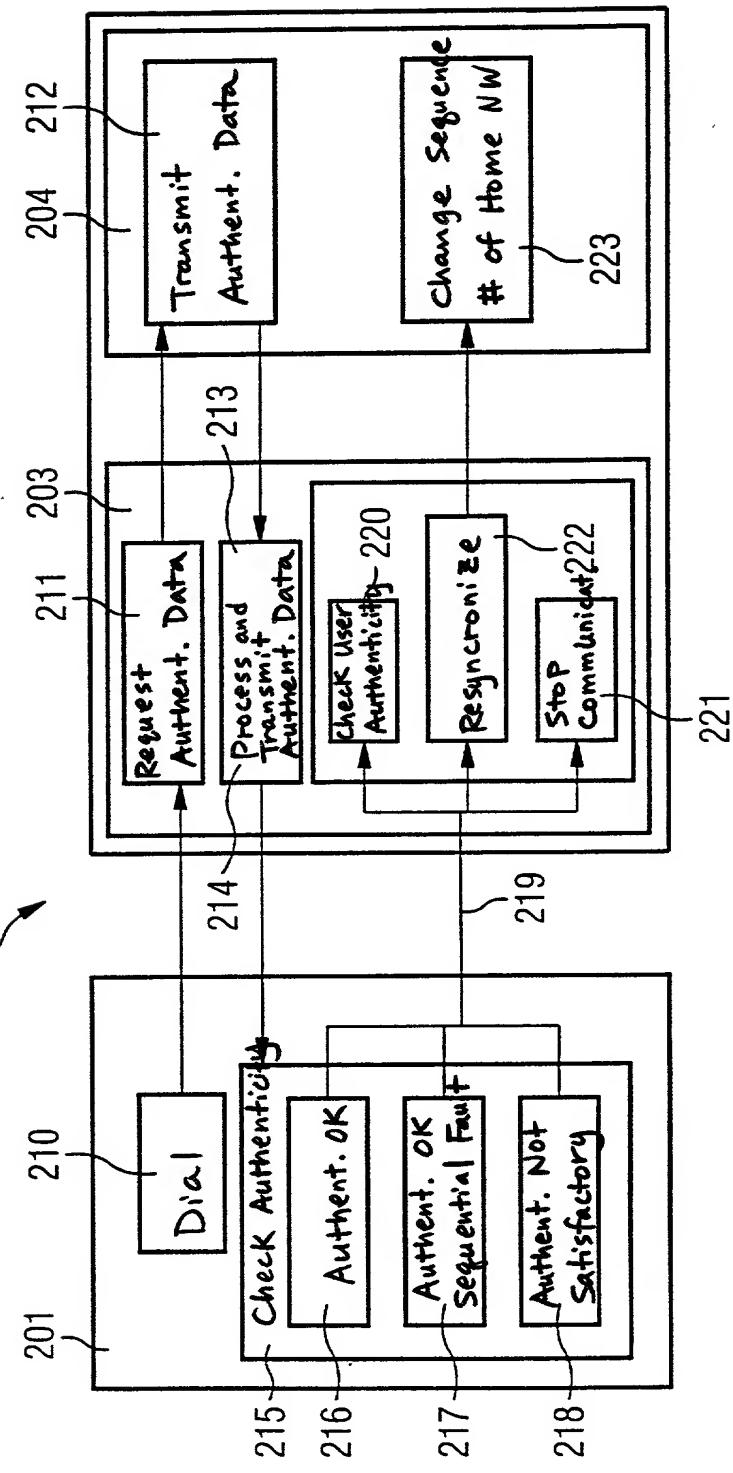
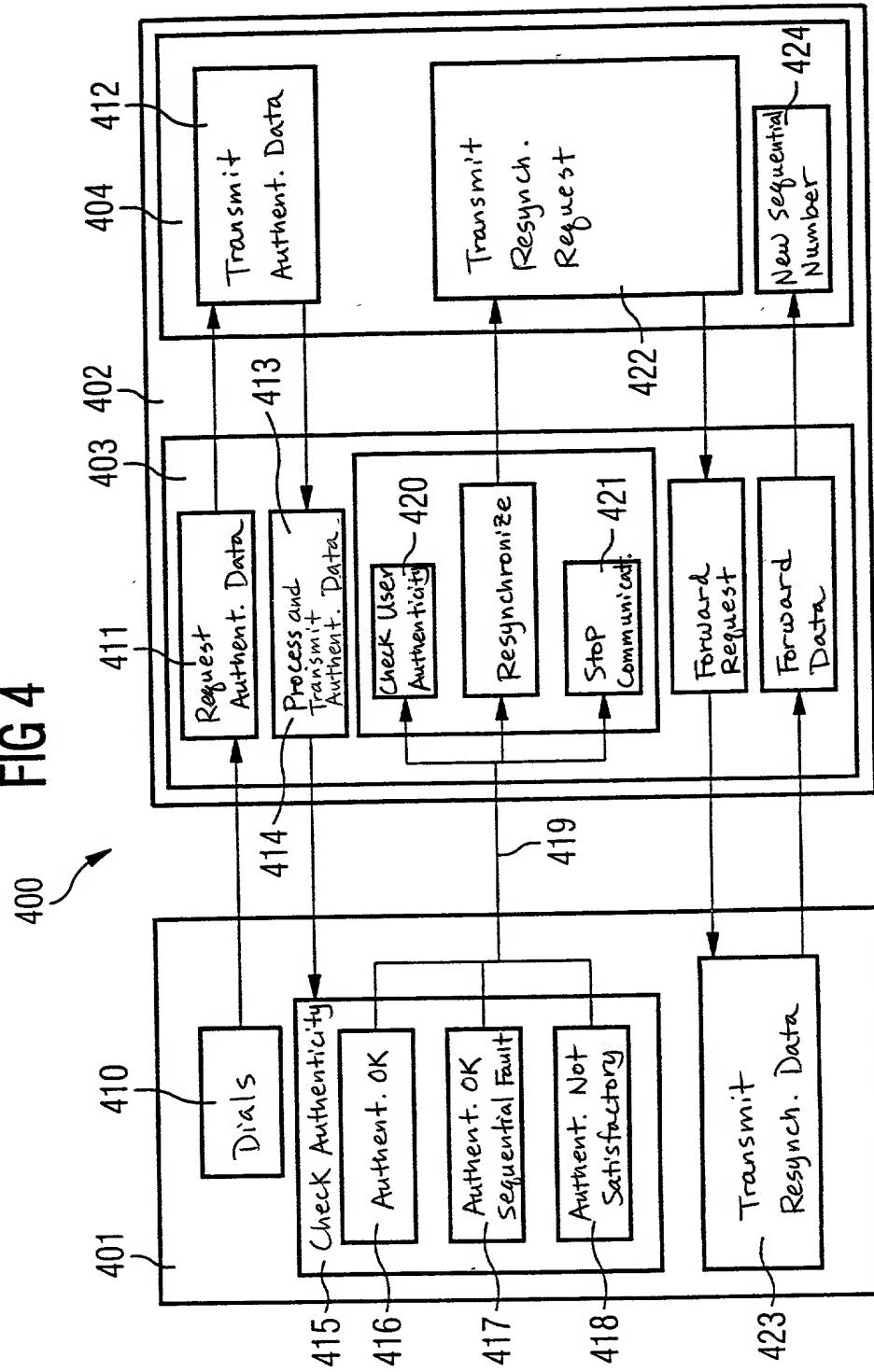


FIG 2



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FIG 4



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

PCT National Phase of PCT/DE00/01788

Günther HORN et al.

Serial No. Group Art Unit: To be assigned

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Filed: Examiner: To be assigned

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR VERIFYING THE AUTHENTICITY OF A FIRST
COMMUNICATION PARTICIPANTS IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the specification originally filed with the enclosed Substitute Specification.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-11.

Please ADD new claims 12-30 in accordance with the following:

12. (NEW) A method for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, comprising:

forming a first fault information item in the first communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a

random data item which has been transmitted to the first communication subscriber by a second communication subscriber in the communications network;

transmitting the first fault information to the second communication subscriber by the first communication subscriber,

forming a second fault information item in the second communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information item relating to the random data item;

checking the authenticity of the first communication subscriber in the second communication subscriber using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.

13. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein a difference is determined between the fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber.

14. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the difference is limited.

15. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first and second communication subscribers are part of a mobile phone system.

16. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the first and second communication subscribers are part of a mobile phone system.

17. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the first and second communication subscribers are part of a mobile phone system.

18. (NEW) A system for checking authenticity in a communications network, comprising:

a first communication subscriber to form a first fault information using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item which has been transmitted to the first communication subscriber, and to transmit the first fault information;

a second communication subscriber to transmit the information relating to the random data item to the first communication subscriber, to receive the first fault information

from the first communication subscriber, to form a second fault information using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item, and to check the authenticity of the first communication subscriber using the first fault information and the second fault information.

19. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the first communication subscriber is a service provider and the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

20. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the service provider is a mobile phone operator and the service user is a mobile phone.

21. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the fault detection data items are sequential numbers.

22. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

23. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the first and second communication subscribers are part of a mobile phone system.

24. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the first communication subscriber is a service provider and the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

25. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the service provider is a mobile phone operator and the service user is a mobile phone.

26. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the first communication subscriber is a service provider and the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

27. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the service provider is a mobile phone operator and the service user is a mobile phone.

28. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the fault detection data items are sequential numbers.

29. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 28, wherein the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

30. (NEW) The system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the service provider is a mobile phone operator and the service user is a mobile phone.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the specification as originally-filed. A substitute specification and marked-up copy of the original specification are enclosed. No new matter is added to these documents.

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: Dec. 17, 2001

By: Mark J. Henry
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SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR VERIFYING THE AUTHENTICITY OF A FIRST COMMUNICATION PARTICIPANTS IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is based on and hereby claims priority to German Application No. 19927 271.9 filed on June 15, 1999 in Germany, and PCT Application No. PCT/DE00/01788 filed on May 31, 2000, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The invention relates to a method and an arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network.

[0003] In a communications network, data is generally transmitted between communication subscribers, for example a service provider and a service user. In order to protect a communications network against penetration of an unauthorized communication subscriber into the communications network, the authenticity of each communication subscriber is generally checked.

[0004] 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, 3rd Generation Partnership Project, Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects, 3G Security, Security Architecture, 05/1999 ("the 3G reference") discloses a method and an arrangement for checking the authenticity of a communication subscriber, in particular of a service provider or of a service user in a communications network.

[0005] The method known from the 3G reference and the corresponding arrangement are based on what is referred to as 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, which describes a security architecture of a mobile phone system.

[0006] In Fig. 4, the procedure during the checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber, such as is known from the 3G reference is illustrated symbolically and parts thereof will be explained below briefly.

[0007] A transmission of data is illustrated in Fig. 4 by an arrow in each case. A direction of an arrow characterizes a transmission direction during a data transmission.

[0008] Fig. 4 shows a mobile phone system 400, comprising a user 401 of a communication service, for example a mobile phone, and a provider 402 of a communication service. The provider 402 comprises a dial-in network 403 with a dial-in network operator from which the user 401 locally requests a communication service, and a home network 404 with a home network operator with which the user 401 is signed on and registered.

[0009] In addition, the user 401, the dial-in network 403 and the home network 404 each have a central processing unit with a memory, for example a server (central computing unit), with which processing unit the procedure described below is monitored and controlled and on which memory data is stored.

[0010] The dial-in network 403 and the home network 404 are connected to one another via a data line over which digital data can be transmitted. The user 401 and the dial-in network 403 are connected to one another via any desired transmission medium for the transmission of digital data.

[0011] During a communication, the user 401 dials 410 into the dial-in network 403. At the start of the communication, checking of both the authenticity of the user 401 and the authenticity of the provider 402 is carried out.

[0012] To do this, the dial-in network 403 requests 411 what is referred to as authentication data from the home network 404, with which data the authenticity of the user 401 and of the provider 402 can be checked.

[0013] The authentication data which is obtained from the home network 404 comprises a random number and a sequential number of the provider 402. The sequential number of the provider 402 is obtained in such a way that a counter of the provider 402 increases the sequential number of the provider 402 by the value 1 at each attempt at communication between the user 401 and the provider 402.

[0014] It is to be noted that the random number and the sequential number of the provider 402 only constitute part of the authentication data and are not to be understood as comprehensive. Further authentication data is known from the 3G reference.

[0015] The home network 404 transmits 412 the requested authentication data to the dial-in network 403. The dial-in network 403 processes the received authentication data in a suitable way 413, and transmits the processed authentication data to the user 401.

[0016] The user 401 checks 415 the authenticity of the provider 402 using a dedicated sequential number, which is handled in a way corresponding to the sequential number of the provider 402, and using the sequential number of the provider 402.

[0017] The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the provider 402 is described in the 3G reference.

[0018] A result of the checking of the authenticity of provider 402, "authenticity of provider satisfactory" 416, "authenticity of provider satisfactory but sequential fault has occurred" 417 or "authenticity of provider not satisfactory" 418, is transmitted 419 from the user 401 to the provider 402.

[0019] In the case of the result “authenticity of provider satisfactory” 416, the dial-in network 403 checks 420 the authenticity of the user 401 as described in the 3G reference.

[0020] In the case of the result “authenticity of provider not satisfactory” 418, the communication is interrupted and/or restarted 421.

[0021] In the case of the result “authenticity of provider satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred” 417, resynchronization takes place in such a way that the home network 404 transmits 422 a resynchronization request to the user 401. The user responds with a resynchronization response in which resynchronization data is transmitted 423 to the home network 404. The sequential number of the provider 402 is changed 424 as a function of the resynchronization response. The authenticity of the user 401 is then checked, as is known from the 3G reference.

[0022] The procedure described has the disadvantage that during checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber, in particular during the checking of the authenticity of a service provider, a large amount of data has to be transmitted between the communication subscribers.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0023] One aspect of the invention is thus based on simplifying and improving the known method and the known arrangement, to yield a simplified and improved arrangement for checking the authenticity of a communication subscriber in a communications network.

[0024] In the method for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, a first fault information item is formed in the first communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In a second communication subscriber in the communications network, a second fault information item is formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item.

[0025] The authenticity of the first communication subscriber is checked using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.

[0026] In the arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, the first communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a first fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In addition, the arrangement has a second communication subscriber in the communications network which is set up in such a way that a second fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item. The authenticity of the first communication subscriber can be checked using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.

[0027] The checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber in a communications network is to be understood as meaning method steps which are carried out in the wider sense with checking of the authorization of a communication subscriber for access to a communications network or participation in communication in a communications network.

[0028] This thus encompasses both method steps which are carried out within the scope of the checking of the authorization of a communication subscriber for access to a communications network and such method steps which are carried out within the scope of the processing or the administration of data which is used in the checking.

[0029] The developments described below relate to the method and to the arrangement.

[0030] The development described below can be implemented either using software or hardware, for example using a specific electrical circuit.

[0031] In one refinement, the first communication subscriber is a service provider and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

[0032] A sequential number is preferably used as the fault detection data item.

[0033] In one refinement, the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

[0034] In one development, the checking of the authenticity is simplified by determining a difference between the fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber.

[0035] In one refinement, the checking of the authenticity is further improved with respect to the security of the communications network by limiting the difference.

[0036] One development is preferably used within the scope of a mobile phone system. In the mobile phone system, the service user is implemented as a mobile phone and/or the service provider is implemented as a mobile phone network operator.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0037] These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent and more readily appreciated from the following description of the preferred embodiments, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings of which:

Fig. 1 shows a mobile phone system;

Fig. 2 shows an outline in which checking of the authenticity of a communication

A B C D E F G H I J K L

subscriber is illustrated symbolically;

Fig. 3 shows a flowchart in which individual method steps are illustrated during checking of the authenticity of a service provider in a communications network; and

Fig. 4 shows an outline in which checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber in accordance with the 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Standard is illustrated symbolically.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0038] Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiments of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference numerals refer to like elements throughout.

Exemplary embodiment: mobile phone system

[0039] A mobile phone system 100 is illustrated in Fig. 1. The mobile phone system 100 comprises a mobile phone 101, a local dial-in network 102 with a dial-in network operator 103 and a home network 104 with a home network operator 105.

[0040] The mobile phone 101 is signed on and registered in the home network 104.

[0041] In addition, the mobile phone 101, the dial-in network 102 and the home network 104 each have a central processing unit 106, 107, 108 with a memory 109, 110, 111, with which processing units 106, 107, 108 the procedure described below is monitored and controlled, and on which memories 109, 110, 111 data is stored.

[0042] The dial-in network 102 and the home network 104 are connected to one another via a data line 112 via which digital data can be transmitted. The mobile phone 101 and the dial-in network 102 are connected to one another via any desired transmission medium 113 for transmitting digital data.

[0043] The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the mobile phone 101 and the procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the home network 104 and/or of the home network operator 105 are illustrated symbolically in Fig. 2, and parts thereof will be explained below briefly.

[0044] The transmission of data in Fig. 2 is illustrated in each case by an arrow. A direction of an arrow characterizes a transmission direction during a data transmission.

[0045] The procedure which is described below and illustrated symbolically in Fig. 2 is based on what is referred to as a 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Standard, which describes a security architecture of a mobile phone system and is described in the 3G reference.

[0046] During a communication, the mobile phone 201 dials 210 into the dial-in network 203. At the start of the communication, checking both of the authenticity of the mobile phone 201 and of the authenticity of the home network 204 and/or of the home network operator takes place.

[0047] To do this, the dial-in network 203 requests 211 authentication data from the home network 204, with which authentication data the authenticity of the user 201 and of the home network 204 and/or of the home network operator can be checked.

[0048] The authentication data which is determined by the home network 204 comprises a random number and a sequential number of the home network 204 (cf. Fig. 3 step 310). The sequential number of the home network 204 is determined in such a way that a counter of the home network 204 increases the sequential number of the home network 204 by the value 1 at each attempt at communication between the mobile phone 201 and the home network 204.

[0049] It is to be noted that the random number and the sequential number of the home network 204 only constitute part of the authentication data and are not to be understood as comprehensive. Further authentication data is specified in the 3G reference.

[0050] The home network 204 transmits 212 the requested authentication data to the dial-in network 203. The dial-in network 203 processes the received authentication data in a suitable way 213 and transmits the processed authentication data to the mobile phone 201.

[0051] The mobile phone 201 checks 215 the authenticity of the home network 204 using a dedicated sequential number which is handled in a way corresponding to the sequential number of the home network 204, and using the sequential number of the home network 204. In a way corresponding to the home network 204, the mobile phone 201 also has a counter.

[0052] The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the home network 204 is described in the 3G reference. Method steps which differ therefrom are described below.

[0053] What is referred to as overflow checking of the counter of the mobile phone 201 is carried out within the scope of the checking of the authenticity of the home network 203. This overflow checking prevents overflowing of an acceptable numerical range of the counter of the mobile phone 201.

[0054] In the overflow checking, the following conditions are tested:

1) sequential number of the home network 204 > sequential number of the mobile phone 201;

2) sequential number of the home network 204 – sequential number of the mobile phone 201 < - predefined deviation (1,000,000);

the following applying for the predefined deviation:

- predefined deviation is sufficiently large in order to ensure, during normal or fault-free communications operation:

that the sequential number of the home network 204 – sequential number of the mobile phone 201 is not > predefined deviation;

- the maximum permissible sequential number of the mobile phone 201/predefined deviation is sufficiently large in order to ensure that the maximum permissible sequential number of the mobile phone 201 is not reached during operation.

[0055] The result of the checking of the authenticity of the home network 204, "authenticity satisfactory" 216, "authenticity satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 217 or "authenticity not satisfactory" 218 is transmitted 219 to the home network 204 from the mobile phone 201.

[0056] In the case of the result "authenticity satisfactory" 216, the dial-in network 203 checks 220 the authenticity of the mobile phone 201, as described in 3G reference.

[0057] In the case of the result "authenticity not satisfactory" 218, the communication is interrupted or restarted 221.

[0058] In the case of the result "authenticity satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 217, resynchronization 222 takes place. Resynchronization is to be understood as a change of the sequential number of the home network 204.

[0059] For this purpose, the mobile phone 201 transmits 222 resynchronization data to the dial-in network 203.

[0060] The resynchronization data comprises the same random number which was transmitted within the scope of the authentication data, and the sequential number of the mobile phone 201 (cf. Fig. 3 step 320).

[0061] The dial-in network 203 processes the resynchronization data in a suitable way and transmits the processed resynchronization data to the home network 204.

[0062] The home network 204 checks the sequential number of the mobile phone 201 and the sequential number of the home network 204 using the processed resynchronization data, and if appropriate changes 223 the sequential number of the home network 204 (cf. Fig. 3 step 330).

[0063] The home network 204 subsequently transmits new authentication data, which if appropriate comprises the changed sequential number of the home network 204, to the dial-in network 203.

[0064] In order to illustrate the described procedure, important steps 300 of the procedure are illustrated in Fig. 3.

[0065] Fig. 3 shows a first step 310 within the scope of which the authentication data (first fault information) is determined.

[0066] The resynchronization data (second fault information) is determined within the scope of a second step 320.

[0067] The sequential number of the mobile phone and the sequential number of the home network are checked within the scope of a third step 330, using the resynchronization data.

[0068] An alternative of the first exemplary embodiment is described below.

[0069] In the alternative exemplary embodiment, a method is implemented in which the home network is made more reliable with respect to a data loss in the event of a system crash.

[0070] For this purpose, the current sequential number of the home network is stored in the memory of the home network, in each case at a predefinable time interval. A sequential number of the home network which has been lost during a system crash of the home network is restored in such a way that a predefinable additional value is added to the value of the stored sequential number. The predefinable additional value is dimensioned in such a way that exceeding of the sum of the sequential number of the mobile phone and the predefinable deviation is not exceeded.

[0071] In the alternative exemplary embodiment, the predefinable additional value is determined in such a way that an average number of authentication attempts on one day by the home network, which number is determined during operation of the communications network, is multiplied by a factor with the value 10.

[0072] The invention has been described in detail with particular reference to preferred embodiments thereof and examples, but it will be understood that variations and modifications can be effected within the spirit and scope of the invention.

MARKED-UP COPY OF TRANSLATED INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION

[Description] TITLE OF THE INVENTION

METHOD AND [ARRANGEMENT]SYSTEM FOR [CHECKING]VERIFYFYING THE AUTHENTICITY OF A FIRST COMMUNICATION [SUBSCRIBER]PARTICIPANTS IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is based on and hereby claims priority to German Application No. 19927 271.9 filed on June 15, 1999 in Germany, and PCT Application No. PCT/DE00/01788 filed on May 31, 2000, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The invention relates to a method and an arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network.

[0003] In a communications network, data is generally transmitted between communication subscribers, for example a service provider and a service user. In order to protect a communications network against penetration of an unauthorized communication subscriber into the communications network, the authenticity of each communication subscriber is generally checked.

[0004] [Document] 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, 3rd Generation Partnership Project, Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects, 3G Security, Security Architecture, 05/1999 ("the 3G reference") discloses a method and an arrangement for checking the authenticity of a communication subscriber, in particular of a service provider or of a service user in a communications network.

[0005] The method known from [document (1)]the 3G reference and the corresponding arrangement are based on what is referred to as 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, which describes a security architecture of a mobile phone system.

[0006] In Fig. 4, the procedure during the checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber, such as is known from the [document(1)]3G reference is illustrated symbolically and parts thereof will be explained below briefly.

[0007] A transmission of data is illustrated in Fig. 4 by an arrow in each case. A direction of an arrow characterizes a transmission direction during a data transmission.

[0008] Fig. 4 shows a mobile phone system 400, comprising a user 401 of a communication service, for example a mobile phone, and a provider 402 of a communication service. The provider 402 comprises a dial-in network 403 with a dial-in network operator from which the user 401 locally requests a communication service, and a home network 404 with a home network operator with which the user 401 is signed on and registered.

[0009] In addition, the user 401, the dial-in network 403 and the home network 404 each have a central processing unit with a memory, for example a server (central computing unit), with which processing unit the procedure described below is monitored and controlled and on which memory data is stored.

[0010] The dial-in network 403 and the home network 404 are connected to one another via a data line over which digital data can be transmitted. The user 401 and the dial-in network 403 are connected to one another via any desired transmission medium for the transmission of digital data.

[0011] During a communication, the user 401 dials 410 into the dial-in network 403. At the start of the communication, checking of both the authenticity of the user 401 and the authenticity of the provider 402 is carried out.

[0012] To do this, the dial-in network 403 requests 411 what is referred to as authentication data from the home network 404, with which data the authenticity of the user 401 and of the provider 402 can be checked.

[0013] The authentication data which is obtained from the home network 404 comprises a random number and a sequential number of the provider 402. The sequential number of the provider 402 is obtained in such a way that a counter of the provider 402 increases the

sequential number of the provider 402 by the value 1 at each attempt at communication between the user 401 and the provider 402.

[0014] It is to be noted that the random number and the sequential number of the provider 402 only constitute part of the authentication data and are not to be understood as comprehensive. Further authentication data is known from [(1)]the 3G reference.

[0015] The home network 404 transmits 412 the requested authentication data to the dial-in network 403. The dial-in network 403 processes the received authentication data in a suitable way 413, and transmits [414] the processed authentication data to the user 401.

[0016] The user 401 checks 415 the authenticity of the provider 402 using a dedicated sequential number, which is handled in a way corresponding to the sequential number of the provider 402, and using the sequential number of the provider 402.

[0017] The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the provider 402 is described in [(1)]the 3G reference.

[0018] A result of the checking of the authenticity of provider 402, "authenticity of provider satisfactory" 416, "authenticity of provider satisfactory but sequential fault has occurred" 417 or "authenticity of provider not satisfactory" 418, is transmitted 419 from the user 401 to the provider 402.

[0019] In the case of the result "authenticity of provider satisfactory" 416, the dial-in network 403 checks 420 the authenticity of the user 401 as described in [(1)]the 3G reference.

[0020] In the case of the result "authenticity of provider not satisfactory" 418, the communication is interrupted and/or restarted 421.

[0021] In the case of the result "authenticity of provider satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 417, resynchronization takes place in such a way that the home network 404 transmits 422 a resynchronization request to the user 401. The user responds with a resynchronization response in which resynchronization data is transmitted 423 to the home network 404. The sequential number of the provider 402 is changed 424 as a function of the

resynchronization response. The authenticity of the user 401 is then checked, as is known from [(1)]the 3G reference.

[0022] The procedure described has the disadvantage that during checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber, in particular during the checking of the authenticity of a service provider, a large amount of data has to be transmitted between the communication subscribers.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0023] [The]One aspect of the invention is thus based on [the problem of disclosing a method which is simplified and improved in comparison with]simplifying and improving the known method and the known arrangement, [and a]to yield a simplified and improved arrangement for checking the authenticity of a communication subscriber in a communications network. [The problem is solved by means of the methods and by means of the arrangements having the features in accordance with the independent patent claims.]

[0024] In the method for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, a first fault information item is formed in the first communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In a second communication subscriber in the communications network, a second fault information item is formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item.

[0025] The authenticity of the first communication subscriber is checked using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.

[0026] In the arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, the first communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a first fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In addition, the arrangement has a second communication subscriber in the communications network which is set up in such a way that a second fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item. The

authenticity of the first communication subscriber can be checked using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.

[0027] The checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber in a communications network is to be understood as meaning method steps which are carried out in the wider sense with checking of the authorization of a communication subscriber for access to a communications network or participation in communication in a communications network.

[0028] This thus encompasses both method steps which are carried out within the scope of the checking of the authorization of a communication subscriber for access to a communications network and such method steps which are carried out within the scope of the processing or the administration of data which is used in the checking. [Preferred developments of the invention are given in the dependent claims.]

[0029] The developments described below relate to the method and to the arrangement.

[0030] The [invention and the] development described below can be implemented either using software or hardware, for example using a specific electrical circuit.

[0031] In one refinement, the first communication subscriber is a service provider and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

[0032] A sequential number is preferably used as the fault detection data item.

[0033] In one refinement, the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

[0034] In one development, the checking of the authenticity is simplified by determining a difference between the fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber.

[0035] In one refinement, the checking of the authenticity is further improved with respect to the security of the communications network by limiting the difference.

[0036] One development is preferably used within the scope of a mobile phone system. In the mobile phone system, the service user is implemented as a mobile phone and/or the service provider is implemented as a mobile phone network operator.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0037] [An exemplary embodiment of the invention which is explained in more detail below is illustrated in the figures, in which figures] These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent and more readily appreciated from the following description of the preferred embodiments, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings of which:

[Figure] Fig. 1 shows a mobile phone system;

[Figure] Fig. 2 shows an outline in which checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber is illustrated symbolically;

[Figure] Fig. 3 shows a flowchart in which individual method steps are illustrated during checking of the authenticity of a service provider in a communications network; and

[Figure] Fig. 4 shows an outline in which checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber in accordance with the 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Standard is illustrated symbolically.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0038] Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiments of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference numerals refer to like elements throughout.

Exemplary embodiment: mobile phone system

[0039] A mobile phone system 100 is illustrated in Fig. 1. The mobile phone system 100 comprises a mobile phone 101, a local dial-in network 102 with a dial-in network operator 103 and a home network 104 with a home network operator 105.

[0040] The mobile phone 101 is signed on and registered in the home network 104.

[0041] In addition, the mobile phone 101, the dial-in network 102 and the home network 104 each have a central processing unit 106, 107, 108 with a memory 109, 110, 111, with which processing units 106, 107, 108 the procedure described below is monitored and controlled, and on which memories 109, 110, 111 data is stored.

[0042] The dial-in network 102 and the home network 104 are connected to one another via a data line 112 via which digital data can be transmitted. The mobile phone 101 and the dial-in network 102 are connected to one another via any desired transmission medium 113 for transmitting digital data.

[0043] The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the mobile phone 101 and the procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the home network 104 and/or of the home network operator 105 are illustrated symbolically in Fig. 2, and parts thereof will be explained below briefly.

[0044] The transmission of data in Fig. 2 is illustrated in each case by an arrow. A direction of an arrow characterizes a transmission direction during a data transmission.

[0045] The procedure which is described below and illustrated symbolically in Fig. 2 is based on what is referred to as a 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Standard, which describes a security architecture of a mobile phone system and is described in [(1)]the 3G reference.

[0046] During a communication, the mobile phone 201 dials 210 into the dial-in network 203. At the start of the communication, checking both of the authenticity of the mobile phone 201 and of the authenticity of the home network 204 and/or of the home network operator takes place.

[0047] To do this, the dial-in network 203 requests 211 authentication data from the home network 204, with which authentication data the authenticity of the user 201 and of the home network 204 and/or of the home network operator can be checked.

[0048] The authentication data which is determined by the home network 204 comprises a random number and a sequential number of the home network 204 (cf. Fig. 3 step 310). The sequential number of the home network 204 is determined in such a way that a counter of the home network 204 increases the sequential number of the home network 204 by the value 1 at each attempt at communication between the mobile phone 201 and the home network 204.

[0049] It is to be noted that the random number and the sequential number of the home network 204 only constitute part of the authentication data and are not to be understood as comprehensive. Further authentication data is specified in [(1)]the 3G reference.

[0050] The home network 204 transmits 212 the requested authentication data to the dial-in network 203. The dial-in network 203 processes the received authentication data in a suitable way 213 and transmits [214] the processed authentication data to the mobile phone 201.

[0051] The mobile phone 201 checks 215 the authenticity of the home network 204 using a dedicated sequential number which is handled in a way corresponding to the sequential number of the home network 204, and using the sequential number of the home network 204. In a way corresponding to the home network 204, the mobile phone 201 also has a counter.

[0052] The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the home network 204 is described in [(1)]the 3G reference. Method steps which differ therefrom are described below.

[0053] What is referred to as overflow checking of the counter of the mobile phone 201 is carried out within the scope of the checking of the authenticity of the home network 203. This overflow checking prevents overflowing of an acceptable numerical range of the counter of the mobile phone 201.

[0054] In the overflow checking, the following conditions are tested:

- 1) sequential number of the home network 204 > sequential number of the mobile phone 201;
- 2) sequential number of the home network 204 – sequential number of the mobile phone 201 < - predefinable deviation (1,000,000);

the following applying for the predefined deviation:

- predefinable deviation is sufficiently large in order to ensure, during normal or fault-free communications operation:
 - that the sequential number of the home network 204 – sequential number of the mobile phone 201 is not > predefinable deviation;
 - the maximum permissible sequential number of the mobile phone 201/predefinable deviation is sufficiently large in order to ensure that the maximum permissible sequential number of the mobile phone 201 is not reached during operation.

[0055] The result of the checking of the authenticity of the home network 204, "authenticity satisfactory" 216, "authenticity satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 217 or

"authenticity not satisfactory" 218 is transmitted [419]219 to the home network 204 from the mobile phone 201.

[0056] In the case of the result "authenticity satisfactory" 216, the dial-in network 203 checks 220 the authenticity of the mobile phone 201, as described in [(1)]3G reference.

[0057] In the case of the result "authenticity not satisfactory" 218, the communication is interrupted or restarted 221.

[0058] In the case of the result "authenticity satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 217, resynchronization 222 takes place. Resynchronization is to be understood as a change of the sequential number of the home network 204.

[0059] For this purpose, the mobile phone 201 transmits 222 resynchronization data to the dial-in network 203.

[0060] The resynchronization data comprises the same random number which was transmitted within the scope of the authentication data, and the sequential number of the mobile phone 201 (cf. Fig. 3 step 320).

[0061] The dial-in network 203 processes the resynchronization data in a suitable way and transmits the processed resynchronization data to the home network 204.

[0062] The home network 204 checks the sequential number of the mobile phone 201 and the sequential number of the home network 204 using the processed resynchronization data, and if appropriate changes 223 the sequential number of the home network 204 (cf. Fig. 3 step 330).

[0063] The home network 204 subsequently transmits new authentication data, which if appropriate comprises the changed sequential number of the home network 204, to the dial-in network 203.

[0064] In order to illustrate the described procedure, important steps 300 of the procedure are illustrated in Fig. 3.

[0065] Fig. 3 shows a first step 310 within the scope of which the authentication data (first fault information) is determined.

[0066] The resynchronization data (second fault information) is determined within the scope of a second step 320.

[0067] The sequential number of the mobile phone and the sequential number of the home network are checked within the scope of a third step 330, using the resynchronization data.

[0068] An alternative of the first exemplary embodiment is described below.

[0069] In the alternative exemplary embodiment, a method is implemented in which the home network is made more reliable with respect to a data loss in the event of a system crash.

[0070] For this purpose, the current sequential number of the home network is stored in the memory of the home network, in each case at a predefinable time interval. A sequential number of the home network which has been lost during a system crash of the home network is restored in such a way that a predefinable additional value is added to the value of the stored sequential number. The predefinable additional value is dimensioned in such a way that exceeding of the sum of the sequential number of the mobile phone and the predefinable deviation is not exceeded.

[0071] In the alternative exemplary embodiment, the predefinable additional value is determined in such a way that an average number of authentication attempts on one day by the home network, which number is determined during operation of the communications network, is multiplied by a factor with the value 10.

[0072] The invention has been described in detail with particular reference to preferred embodiments thereof and examples, but it will be understood that variations and modifications can be effected within the spirit and scope of the invention. [The following publication is cited in this document: (1) 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, 3rd Generation Partnership Project, Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects, 3G Security, Security Architecture, 05/1999.]

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Description

Method and arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network

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The invention relates to a method and an arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network.

10 In a communications network, data is generally transmitted between communication subscribers, for example a service provider and a service user. In order to protect a communications network against penetration of an unauthorized communication subscriber into the communications network, the authenticity of each communication subscriber is generally checked.

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Document [1] discloses a method and an arrangement for checking the authenticity of a communication subscriber, in particular of a service provider or of a service user in a communications network.

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The method known from document [1] and the corresponding arrangement are based on what is referred to as 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, which describes a security architecture of a mobile phone system.

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In Fig. 4, the procedure during the checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber, such as is known from the document [1] is illustrated symbolically and parts thereof will be explained below briefly.

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A transmission of data is illustrated in Fig. 4 by an arrow in each case. A direction of an arrow characterizes a transmission direction during a data transmission.

Fig. 4 shows a mobile phone system 400, comprising a user 401 of a communication service, for example a mobile phone, and a provider 402 of a communication service. The provider 402 comprises a dial-in network 403 with a dial-in network operator from which the user 401 locally requests a communication service, and a home

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network 404 with a home network operator with which the user 401 is signed on and registered.

In addition, the user 401, the dial-in network 403 and the home network 404 each have a central processing unit with a memory, for example a server (central computing unit), with which processing unit the procedure described below is monitored and controlled and on which memory data is stored.

10 The dial-in network 403 and the home network 404 are connected to one another via a data line over which digital data can be transmitted. The user 401 and the dial-in network 403 are connected to one another via any desired transmission medium for the transmission of digital data.

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During a communication, the user 401 dials 410 into the dial-in network 403. At the start of the communication, checking of both the authenticity of the user 401 and the authenticity of the provider 402 is carried out.

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To do this, the dial-in network 403 requests 411 what is referred to as authentication data from the home network 404, with which data the authenticity of the user 401 and of the provider 402 can be checked.

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The authentication data which is obtained from the home network 404 comprises a random number and a sequential number of the provider 402. The sequential number of

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the provider 402 is obtained in such a way that a counter of the provider 402 increases the sequential number of the provider 402 by the value 1 at each attempt at communication between the user

401 and the provider 402.

It is to be noted that the random number and the sequential number of the provider 402 only constitute part of the authentication data and are not to be understood as comprehensive. Further authentication data is known from [1].

The home network 404 transmits 412 the requested authentication data to the dial-in network 403. The dial-in network 403 processes 10 the received authentication data in a suitable way 413, and transmits 414 the processed authentication data to the user 401.

The user 401 checks 415 the authenticity of the provider 402 using a dedicated sequential number, which is handled in a way 15 corresponding to the sequential number of the provider 402, and using the sequential number of the provider 402.

The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the provider 402 is described in [1].

20 A result of the checking of the authenticity of provider 402, "authenticity of provider satisfactory" 416, "authenticity of provider satisfactory but sequential fault has occurred" 417 or "authenticity of provider not satisfactory" 418, is transmitted 25 419 from the user 401 to the provider 402.

In the case of the result "authenticity of provider satisfactory" 416, the dial-in network 403 checks 420 the authenticity of the user 401 as described in [1].

30 In the case of the result "authenticity of provider not satisfactory" 418, the communication is interrupted and/or restarted 421.

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In the case of the result "authenticity of provider satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 417, resynchronization takes place in such a way that the home network 404 transmits 422 a resynchronization request to the user 401. The user responds with 5 a resynchronization response in which resynchronization data is transmitted 423 to the home network 404. The sequential number of the provider 402 is changed 424 as a function of the resynchronization response. The authenticity of the user 401 is then checked, as is known from [1].

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The procedure described has the disadvantage that during checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber, in particular during the checking of the authenticity of a service provider, a large amount of data has to be transmitted between the 15 communication subscribers.

The invention is thus based on the problem of disclosing a method which is simplified and improved in comparison with the known method and the known arrangement, and a simplified and improved 20 arrangement for checking the authenticity of a communication subscriber in a communications network.

The problem is solved by means of the methods and by means of the arrangements having the features in accordance with the 25 independent patent claims.

In the method for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, a first fault information item is formed in the first communication 30 subscriber using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In a second communication subscriber in the communications network, a second fault information item is formed

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using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data

item.

The authenticity of the first communication subscriber is checked using the first fault information item and the second fault 5 information item.

In the arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, the first communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a first 10 fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In addition, the arrangement has a second communication subscriber in the communications network which is set up in such a way that a second fault information item 15 can be formed using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item. The authenticity of the first communication subscriber can be checked using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.

20 The checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber in a communications network is to be understood as meaning method steps which are carried out in the wider sense with checking of the authorization of a communication subscriber for access to a 25 communications network or participation in communication in a communications network.

This thus encompasses both method steps which are carried out within the scope of the checking of the authorization of a 30 communication subscriber for access to a communications network and such method steps which are carried out within the scope of the processing or the administration of data which is used in the checking.

Preferred developments of the invention are given in the dependent claims.

The developments described below relate to the method and to the
5 arrangement.

The invention and the development described below can be implemented either using software or hardware, for example using a specific electrical circuit.

10

In one refinement, the first communication subscriber is a service provider and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

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A sequential number is preferably used as the fault detection data item.

In one refinement, the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

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In one development, the checking of the authenticity is simplified by determining a difference between the fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber.

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In one refinement, the checking of the authenticity is further improved with respect to the security of the communications network by limiting the difference.

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One development is preferably used within the scope of a mobile phone system. In the mobile phone system, the service user is implemented as a mobile phone and/or the service provider is implemented as a mobile phone network operator.

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An exemplary embodiment of the invention which is explained in more detail below is illustrated in the figures, in which figures:

Figure 1 shows a mobile phone system;

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Figure 2 shows an outline in which checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber is illustrated symbolically;

10 Figure 3 shows a flowchart in which individual method steps are illustrated during checking of the authenticity of a service provider in a communications network;

15 Figure 4 shows an outline in which checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber in accordance with the 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Standard is illustrated symbolically.

Exemplary embodiment: mobile phone system

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A mobile phone system 100 is illustrated in Fig. 1. The mobile phone system 100 comprises a mobile phone 101, a local dial-in network 102 with a dial-in network operator 103 and a home network 104 with a home network operator 105.

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The mobile phone 101 is signed on and registered in the home network 104.

30 In addition, the mobile phone 101, the dial-in network 102 and the home network 104 each have a central processing unit 106, 107, 108 with a memory 109, 110, 111, with which processing units 106, 107, 108 the procedure described below is monitored and controlled, and

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on which memories 109, 110, 111 data is stored.

The dial-in network 102 and the home network 104 are connected to one another via a data line 112 via which digital data can be transmitted. The mobile phone 101 and the dial-in network 102 are connected to one another via any desired transmission medium 113 for transmitting digital data.

10 The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the mobile phone 101 and the procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the home network 104 and/or of the home network operator 105 are illustrated symbolically in Fig. 2, and parts thereof will be explained below briefly.

15 The transmission of data in Fig. 2 is illustrated in each case by an arrow. A direction of an arrow characterizes a transmission direction during a data transmission.

The procedure which is described below and illustrated symbolically in Fig. 2 is based on what is referred to as a 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Standard, which describes a security architecture of a mobile phone system and is described in [1].

During a communication, the mobile phone 201 dials 210 into the dial-in network 203. At the start of the communication, checking both of the authenticity of the mobile phone 201 and of the authenticity of the home network 204 and/or of the home network operator takes place.

30 To do this, the dial-in network 203 requests 211 authentication data from the home network 204, with which authentication data the authenticity of the user 201 and of the home network 204 and/or of the home network operator can be checked.

35 The authentication data which is determined by the home network
204 comprises a random number and a sequential number of the home
network 204 (cf. [Fig. 3](#) step 310). The sequential number of the
home network 204 is determined in such a way that a counter of the
home network 204 increases the sequential number of the home

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network 204 by the value 1 at each attempt at communication between the mobile phone 201 and the home network 204.

It is to be noted that the random number and the sequential number 5 of the home network 204 only constitute part of the authentication data and are not to be understood as comprehensive. Further authentication data is specified in [1].

The home network 204 transmits 212 the requested authentication 10 data to the dial-in network 203. The dial-in network 203 processes the received authentication data in a suitable way 213 and transmits 214 the processed authentication data to the mobile phone 201.

15 The mobile phone 201 checks 215 the authenticity of the home network 204 using a dedicated sequential number which is handled in a way corresponding to the sequential number of the home network 204, and using the sequential number of the home network 204. In a way corresponding to the home network 204, the mobile 20 phone 201 also has a counter.

The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the home network 204 is described in [1]. Method steps which differ therefrom are described below.

25 What is referred to as overflow checking of the counter of the mobile phone 201 is carried out within the scope

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of the checking of the authenticity of the home network 203. This overflow checking prevents overflowing of an acceptable numerical range of the counter of the mobile phone 201.

In the overflow checking, the following conditions are tested:

1) sequential number of the home network 204 > sequential
5 number of the mobile phone 201;

2) sequential number of the home network 204 - sequential
number of the mobile phone 201 < - predefinable
deviation (1,000,000);

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the following applying for the predefined deviation:

- predefinable deviation is sufficiently large in order to
ensure, during normal or fault-free communications operation:

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that the sequential number of the home network 204 - sequential
number of the mobile phone 201 is not > predefinable deviation;

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- the maximum permissible sequential number of the mobile
phone 201/predefinable deviation is sufficiently large in order to
ensure that the maximum permissible sequential number of the
mobile phone 201 is not reached during operation.

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The result of the checking of the authenticity of the home network
204, "authenticity satisfactory" 216, "authenticity satisfactory
but a sequential fault has occurred" 217 or "authenticity not
satisfactory" 218 is transmitted 419 to the home network 204 from
the mobile phone 201.

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In the case of the result "authenticity satisfactory" 216, the
dial-in network 203 checks 220 the authenticity of the mobile
phone 201, as described in [1].

In the case of the result "authenticity not satisfactory" 218, the communication is interrupted or restarted 221.

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In the case of the result "authenticity satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 217, resynchronization 222 takes place. Resynchronization is to be understood as a change of the sequential number of the home network 204.

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For this purpose, the mobile phone 201 transmits 222 resynchronization data to the dial-in network 203.

10 The resynchronization data comprises the same random number which was transmitted within the scope of the authentication data, and the sequential number of the mobile phone 201 (cf. Fig. 3 step 320).

15 The dial-in network 203 processes the resynchronization data in a suitable way and transmits the processed resynchronization data to the home network 204.

20 The home network checks the sequential number of the mobile phone 201 and the sequential number of the home network 204 using the processed resynchronization data, and if appropriate changes 223 the sequential number of the home network 204 (cf. Fig. 3 step 330).

25 The home network 204 subsequently transmits new authentication data, which if appropriate comprises the changed sequential number of the home network 204, to the dial-in network 203.

300 In order to illustrate the described procedure, important steps 300 of the procedure are illustrated in Fig. 3.

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Fig. 3 shows a first step 310 within the scope of which the authentication data (first fault information) is determined.

The resynchronization data (second fault information) is determined within the scope of a second step 320.

5 The sequential number of the mobile phone and the sequential number of the home network are checked within the scope of a third step 330, using the resynchronization data.

An alternative of the first exemplary embodiment is described below.

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In the alternative exemplary embodiment, a method is implemented in which the home network is made more reliable with respect to a data loss in the event of a system crash.

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For this purpose, the current sequential number of the home network is stored in the memory of the home network, in each case at a predefinable time interval. A sequential number of the home network which has been lost during a system crash of the home network is restored in such a way that a predefinable additional value is added to the value of the stored sequential number. The predefinable additional value is dimensioned in such a way that exceeding of the sum of the sequential number of the mobile phone and the predefinable deviation is not exceeded.

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25 In the alternative exemplary embodiment, the predefinable additional value is determined in such a way that an average number of authentication attempts on one day by the home network, which number is determined during operation of the communications network, is multiplied by a factor with the value 10.

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The following publication is cited in this document:

[1] 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, 3rd Generation
5 Partnership Project, Technical Specification Group Services and
System Aspects, 3G Security, Security Architecture, 05/1999.

3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, 3rd Generation
5 Partnership Project, Technical Specification Group Services and
System Aspects, 3G Security, Security Architecture, 05/1999.

Patent claims

1. A method for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network,

5 - in which a first fault information item is formed in the first communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the service provider and an information item relating to a random data item;

10 - in which a second fault information item is formed in a second communication subscriber in the communications network using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information item relating to the random data item;

15 - in which the authenticity of the first communication subscriber is checked using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which a difference is determined between the fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber.

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3. The method as claimed in claim 2, in which the difference is limited.

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4. The method as claimed in one of claims 1 to 3, used within the scope of a mobile phone system.

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5. An arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network,

5 - in which the first communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a first fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item;

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5 - in which a second communication subscriber is set up in the communications network in such a way that a second fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item;

10 - in which the authenticity of the first communication subscriber can be checked using the first fault information and the second fault information.

15 6. The arrangement as claimed in claim 5, in which the first communication subscriber is a service provider and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

20 7. The arrangement as claimed in claim 5 or 6, in which a fault detection data item is a sequential number.

25 8. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 7, in which the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

30 9. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 8, in which the first communication subscriber is a service provider in the communications network and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

10. The arrangement as claimed in claim 9, in which the service provider is a mobile phone operator and/or the service user is a mobile phone.

30 11. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 10, used within the scope of a mobile phone system.

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Abstract

Method and arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network

In the method and the arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, a first fault information item is formed in the first communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In a second communication subscriber in the communications network, a second fault information item is formed using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item. The authenticity of the first communication subscriber is checked using the first fault information and the second fault information.

Patent claims

1. A method for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network,
 - 5 - in which a first fault information item is formed in the first communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item which has been transmitted to the first communication subscriber by a second communication subscriber in the communications network;
 - in which the first fault information is transmitted to the second communication subscriber by the first communication subscriber,
 - 15 - in which a second fault information item is formed in the second communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information item relating to the random data item;
 - in which the authenticity of the first communication subscriber is checked in the second communication subscriber using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which a difference is determined between the fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber.
3. The method as claimed in claim 2, in which the difference is limited.

4. The method as claimed in one of claims 1 to 3, used within the scope of a mobile phone system.
5. An arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network,

5 - in which the first communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a first fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item which has been transmitted to the first communication subscriber by a second communication subscriber in the communications network, and the first fault information item can be transmitted to the second communication subscriber;

10 - in which the second communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a second fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item, and the authenticity of the first communication subscriber can be checked using the first fault information and the second fault information.

15 6. The arrangement as claimed in claim 5, in which the first communication subscriber is a service provider and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

20 7. The arrangement as claimed in claim 5 or 6, in which a fault detection data item is a sequential number.

25 8. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 7, in which the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

9. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 8, in which the first communication subscriber is a service provider in the communications network and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

10. The arrangement as claimed in claim 9, in which the service provider is a mobile phone operator and/or the service user is a mobile phone.

5 11. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 10, used within the scope of a mobile phone system.

Description

Method and arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network

5

The invention relates to a method and an arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network.

10 In a communications network, data is generally transmitted between communication subscribers, for example a service provider and a service user. In order to protect a communications network against penetration of an unauthorized communication subscriber into the communications network, the authenticity of each communication
15 subscriber is generally checked.

Document [1] discloses a method and an arrangement for checking the authenticity of a communication subscriber, in particular of a service provider or of a service user in a communications network.

20

The method known from document [1] and the corresponding arrangement are based on what is referred to as 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, which describes a security architecture of a mobile phone system.

25

In Fig. 4, the procedure during the checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber, such as is known from the document [1] is illustrated symbolically and parts thereof will be explained below briefly.

30

A transmission of data is illustrated in Fig. 4 by an arrow in each case. A direction of an arrow characterizes a transmission direction during a data transmission.

35

Fig. 4 shows a mobile phone system 400, comprising a user 401 of a communication service, for example a mobile phone, and a provider 402 of a communication service. The provider 402 comprises a dial-in network 403 with a dial-in network operator from which the user 401 locally requests a communication service, and a home

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network 404 with a home network operator with which the user 401 is signed on and registered.

5 In addition, the user 401, the dial-in network 403 and the home network 404 each have a central processing unit with a memory, for example a server (central computing unit), with which processing unit the procedure described below is monitored and controlled and on which memory data is stored.

10 The dial-in network 403 and the home network 404 are connected to one another via a data line over which digital data can be transmitted. The user 401 and the dial-in network 403 are connected to one another via any desired transmission medium for the transmission of digital data.

15 During a communication, the user 401 dials 410 into the dial-in network 403. At the start of the communication, checking of both the authenticity of the user 401 and the authenticity of the provider 402 is carried out.

20 To do this, the dial-in network 403 requests 411 what is referred to as authentication data from the home network 404, with which data the authenticity of the user 401 and of the provider 402 can be checked.

25 The authentication data which is obtained from the home network 404 comprises a random number and a sequential number of the provider 402. The sequential number of

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the provider 402 is obtained in such a way that a counter of the provider 402 increases the sequential number of the provider 402 by the value 1 at each attempt at communication between the user

401 and the provider 402.

It is to be noted that the random number and the sequential number of the provider 402 only constitute part of the authentication data and are not to be understood as comprehensive. Further authentication data is known from [1].

The home network 404 transmits 412 the requested authentication data to the dial-in network 403. The dial-in network 403 processes 10 the received authentication data in a suitable way 413, and transmits 414 the processed authentication data to the user 401.

The user 401 checks 415 the authenticity of the provider 402 using a dedicated sequential number, which is handled in a way 15 corresponding to the sequential number of the provider 402, and using the sequential number of the provider 402.

The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the provider 402 is described in [1].

20 A result of the checking of the authenticity of provider 402, "authenticity of provider satisfactory" 416, "authenticity of provider satisfactory but sequential fault has occurred" 417 or "authenticity of provider not satisfactory" 418, is transmitted 25 419 from the user 401 to the provider 402.

In the case of the result "authenticity of provider satisfactory" 416, the dial-in network 403 checks 420 the authenticity of the user 401 as described in [1].

30 In the case of the result "authenticity of provider not satisfactory" 418, the communication is interrupted and/or restarted 421.

In the case of the result "authenticity of provider satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 417, resynchronization takes place in such a way that the home network 404 transmits 422 a resynchronization request to the user 401. The user responds with 5 a resynchronization response in which resynchronization data is transmitted 423 to the home network 404. The sequential number of the provider 402 is changed 424 as a function of the resynchronization response. The authenticity of the user 401 is then checked, as is known from [1].

10

The procedure described has the disadvantage that during checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber, in particular during the checking of the authenticity of a service provider, a large amount of data has to be transmitted between the 15 communication subscribers.

The invention is thus based on the problem of disclosing a method which is simplified and improved in comparison with the known method and the known arrangement, and a simplified and improved 20 arrangement for checking the authenticity of a communication subscriber in a communications network.

The problem is solved by means of the methods and by means of the arrangements having the features in accordance with the 25 independent patent claims.

In the method for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, a first fault information item is formed in the first communication 30 subscriber using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In a second communication subscriber in the communications network, a second fault information item is formed

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using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data

item.

The authenticity of the first communication subscriber is checked using the first fault information item and the second fault
5 information item.

In the arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network, the first communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a first
10 fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item. In addition, the arrangement has a second communication subscriber in the communications network which is set up in such a way that a second fault information item
15 can be formed using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item. The authenticity of the first communication subscriber can be checked using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.

20 The checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber in a communications network is to be understood as meaning method steps which are carried out in the wider sense with checking of the authorization of a communication subscriber for access to a
25 communications network or participation in communication in a communications network.

This thus encompasses both method steps which are carried out within the scope of the checking of the authorization of a
30 communication subscriber for access to a communications network and such method steps which are carried out within the scope of the processing or the administration of data which is used in the checking.

Preferred developments of the invention are given in the dependent claims.

The developments described below relate to the method and to the
5 arrangement.

The invention and the development described below can be implemented either using software or hardware, for example using a specific electrical circuit.

10

In one refinement, the first communication subscriber is a service provider and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

15 A sequential number is preferably used as the fault detection data item.

In one refinement, the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

20

In one development, the checking of the authenticity is simplified by determining a difference between the fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber.

25

In one refinement, the checking of the authenticity is further improved with respect to the security of the communications network by limiting the difference.

30

30 One development is preferably used within the scope of a mobile phone system. In the mobile phone system, the service user is implemented as a mobile phone and/or the service provider is implemented as a mobile phone network operator.

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An exemplary embodiment of the invention which is explained in more detail below is illustrated in the figures, in which figures:

Figure 1 shows a mobile phone system;

5

Figure 2 shows an outline in which checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber is illustrated symbolically;

10 Figure 3 shows a flowchart in which individual method steps are
illustrated during checking of the authenticity of a
service provider in a communications network;

Figure 4 shows an outline in which checking of the authenticity of a communication subscriber in accordance with the 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Standard is illustrated symbolically.

Exemplary embodiment: mobile phone system

20

A mobile phone system 100 is illustrated in Fig. 1. The mobile phone system 100 comprises a mobile phone 101, a local dial-in network 102 with a dial-in network operator 103 and a home network 104 with a home network operator 105.

25

The mobile phone 101 is signed on and registered in the home network 104.

In addition, the mobile phone 101, the dial-in network 102 and the
30 home network 104 each have a central processing unit 106, 107, 108
with a memory 109, 110, 111, with which processing units
106, 107, 108 the procedure described below is monitored and
controlled, and

on which memories 109, 110, 111 data is stored.

The dial-in network 102 and the home network 104 are connected to one another via a data line 112 via which digital data can be 5 transmitted. The mobile phone 101 and the dial-in network 102 are connected to one another via any desired transmission medium 113 for transmitting digital data.

The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the 10 mobile phone 101 and the procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the home network 104 and/or of the home network operator 105 are illustrated symbolically in Fig. 2, and parts thereof will be explained below briefly.

15 The transmission of data in Fig. 2 is illustrated in each case by an arrow. A direction of an arrow characterizes a transmission direction during a data transmission.

20 The procedure which is described below and illustrated symbolically in Fig. 2 is based on what is referred to as a 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Standard, which describes a security architecture of a mobile phone system and is described in [1].

25 During a communication, the mobile phone 201 dials 210 into the dial-in network 203. At the start of the communication, checking both of the authenticity of the mobile phone 201 and of the authenticity of the home network 204 and/or of the home network operator takes place.

30 To do this, the dial-in network 203 requests 211 authentication data from the home network 204, with which authentication data the authenticity of the user 201 and of the home network 204 and/or of the home network operator can be checked.

35 The authentication data which is determined by the home network 204 comprises a random number and a sequential number of the home network 204 (cf. Fig. 3 step 310). The sequential number of the home network 204 is determined in such a way that a counter of the home network 204 increases the sequential number of the home

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network 204 by the value 1 at each attempt at communication between the mobile phone 201 and the home network 204.

It is to be noted that the random number and the sequential number 5 of the home network 204 only constitute part of the authentication data and are not to be understood as comprehensive. Further authentication data is specified in [1].

The home network 204 transmits 212 the requested authentication 10 data to the dial-in network 203. The dial-in network 203 processes the received authentication data in a suitable way 213 and transmits 214 the processed authentication data to the mobile phone 201.

15 The mobile phone 201 checks 215 the authenticity of the home network 204 using a dedicated sequential number which is handled in a way corresponding to the sequential number of the home network 204, and using the sequential number of the home network 204. In a way corresponding to the home network 204, the mobile 20 phone 201 also has a counter.

The procedure during the checking of the authenticity of the home network 204 is described in [1]. Method steps which differ therefrom are described below.

25 What is referred to as overflow checking of the counter of the mobile phone 201 is carried out within the scope

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of the checking of the authenticity of the home network 203. This overflow checking prevents overflowing of an acceptable numerical range of the counter of the mobile phone 201.

In the overflow checking, the following conditions are tested:

1) sequential number of the home network 204 > sequential
5 number of the mobile phone 201;

2) sequential number of the home network 204 - sequential
number of the mobile phone 201 < - predefinable
deviation (1,000,000);

10

the following applying for the predefined deviation:

- predefinable deviation is sufficiently large in order to
ensure, during normal or fault-free communications operation:

15

that the sequential number of the home network 204 - sequential
number of the mobile phone 201 is not > predefinable deviation;

20

- the maximum permissible sequential number of the mobile
phone 201/predefinable deviation is sufficiently large in order to
ensure that the maximum permissible sequential number of the
mobile phone 201 is not reached during operation.

25

The result of the checking of the authenticity of the home network
204, "authenticity satisfactory" 216, "authenticity satisfactory
but a sequential fault has occurred" 217 or "authenticity not
satisfactory" 218 is transmitted 419 to the home network 204 from
the mobile phone 201.

30

In the case of the result "authenticity satisfactory" 216, the
dial-in network 203 checks 220 the authenticity of the mobile
phone 201, as described in [1].

In the case of the result "authenticity not satisfactory" 218, the communication is interrupted or restarted 221.

In the case of the result "authenticity satisfactory but a sequential fault has occurred" 217, resynchronization 222 takes place. Resynchronization is to be understood as a change of the sequential number of the home network 204.

5

For this purpose, the mobile phone 201 transmits 222 resynchronization data to the dial-in network 203.

10 The resynchronization data comprises the same random number which was transmitted within the scope of the authentication data, and 15 the sequential number of the mobile phone 201 (cf. Fig. 3 step 320).

15 The dial-in network 203 processes the resynchronization data in a suitable way and transmits the processed resynchronization data to the home network 204.

20 The home network checks the sequential number of the mobile phone 201 and the sequential number of the home network 204 using the 25 processed resynchronization data, and if appropriate changes 223 the sequential number of the home network 204 (cf. Fig. 3 step 330).

25 The home network 204 subsequently transmits new authentication data, which if appropriate comprises the changed sequential number of the home network 204, to the dial-in network 203.

In order to illustrate the described procedure, important steps 300 of the procedure are illustrated in Fig. 3.

30

Fig. 3 shows a first step 310 within the scope of which the authentication data (first fault information) is determined.

The resynchronization data (second fault information) is determined within the scope of a second step 320.

5 The sequential number of the mobile phone and the sequential number of the home network are checked within the scope of a third step 330, using the resynchronization data.

An alternative of the first exemplary embodiment is described below.

10

In the alternative exemplary embodiment, a method is implemented in which the home network is made more reliable with respect to a data loss in the event of a system crash.

15

For this purpose, the current sequential number of the home network is stored in the memory of the home network, in each case at a predefinable time interval. A sequential number of the home network which has been lost during a system crash of the home network is restored in such a way that a predefinable additional value is added to the value of the stored sequential number. The predefinable additional value is dimensioned in such a way that exceeding of the sum of the sequential number of the mobile phone and the predefinable deviation is not exceeded.

20

25 In the alternative exemplary embodiment, the predefinable additional value is determined in such a way that an average number of authentication attempts on one day by the home network, which number is determined during operation of the communications network, is multiplied by a factor with the value 10.

30

A C C E S S C O D E : 0 9 1 2 3 4 5 6

The following publication is cited in this document:

[1] 3G TS 33.102 Version 3.0.0 Draft Standard, 3rd Generation
5 Partnership Project, Technical Specification Group Services and
System Aspects, 3G Security, Security Architecture, 05/1999.

3G TS 33.102

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Patent claims

1. A method for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network,
 - 5 - in which a first fault information item is formed in the first communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item which has been transmitted to the first communication subscriber by a second communication subscriber in the communications network;
 - in which the first fault information is transmitted to the second communication subscriber by the first communication subscriber,
- 10 - in which a second fault information item is formed in the second communication subscriber using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information item relating to the random data item;
- 15 - in which the authenticity of the first communication subscriber is checked in the second communication subscriber using the first fault information item and the second fault information item.
- 20
- 25 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which a difference is determined between the fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and the fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber.
- 30 3. The method as claimed in claim 2, in which the difference is limited.

4. The method as claimed in one of claims 1 to 3, used within the scope of a mobile phone system.

5 5. An arrangement for checking the authenticity of a first communication subscriber in a communications network,

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- in which the first communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a first fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the first communication subscriber and an information item relating to a random data item which has been transmitted to the first communication subscriber by a second communication subscriber in the communications network, and the first fault information item can be transmitted to the second communication subscriber;
- in which the second communication subscriber is set up in such a way that a second fault information item can be formed using a fault detection data item of the second communication subscriber and the information relating to the random data item, and the authenticity of the first communication subscriber can be checked using the first fault information and the second fault information.

6. The arrangement as claimed in claim 5, in which the first communication subscriber is a service provider and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

7. The arrangement as claimed in claim 5 or 6, in which a fault detection data item is a sequential number.

8. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 7, in which the information relating to the random data item is a random number.

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9. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 8, in which the first communication subscriber is a service provider in the communications network and/or the second communication subscriber is a service user in the communications network.

10. The arrangement as claimed in claim 9, in which the service provider is a mobile phone operator and/or the service user is a mobile phone.

5 11. The arrangement as claimed in one of claims 5 to 10, used within the scope of a mobile phone system.

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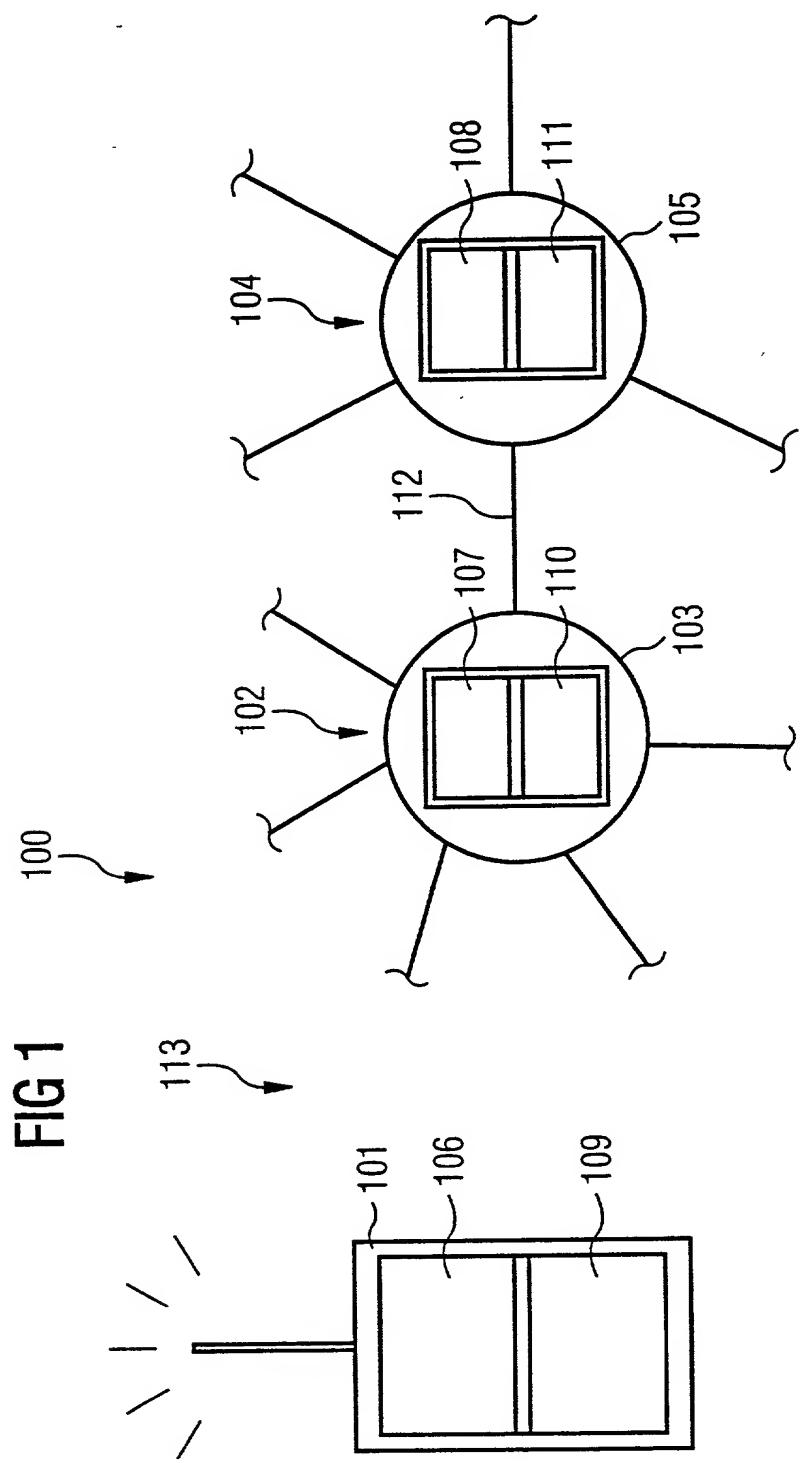
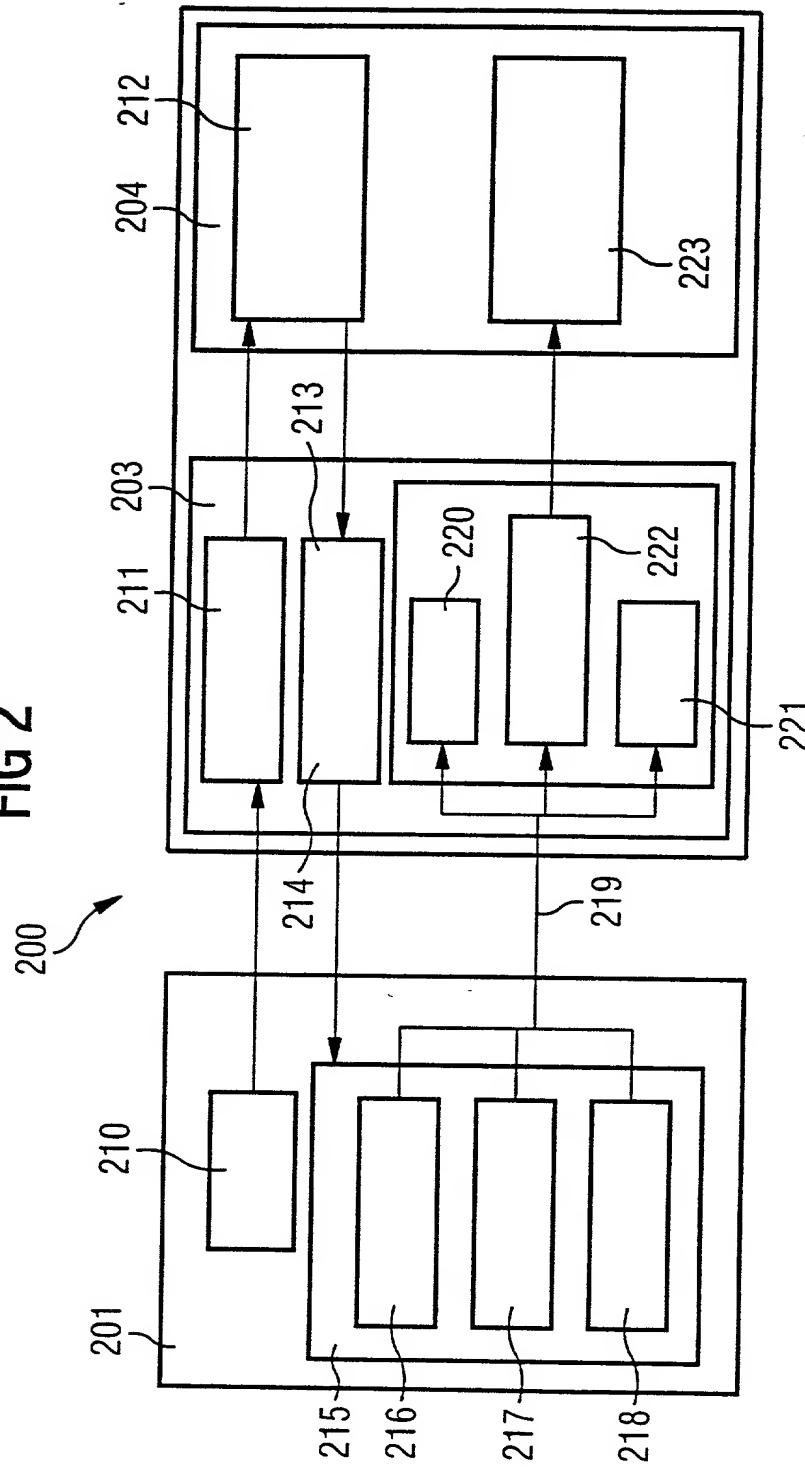


FIG 1

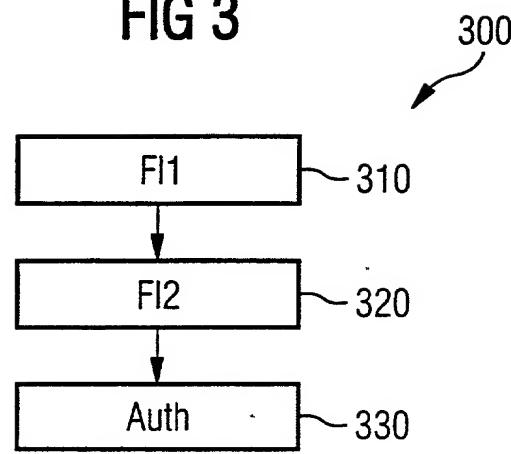
FIG 2



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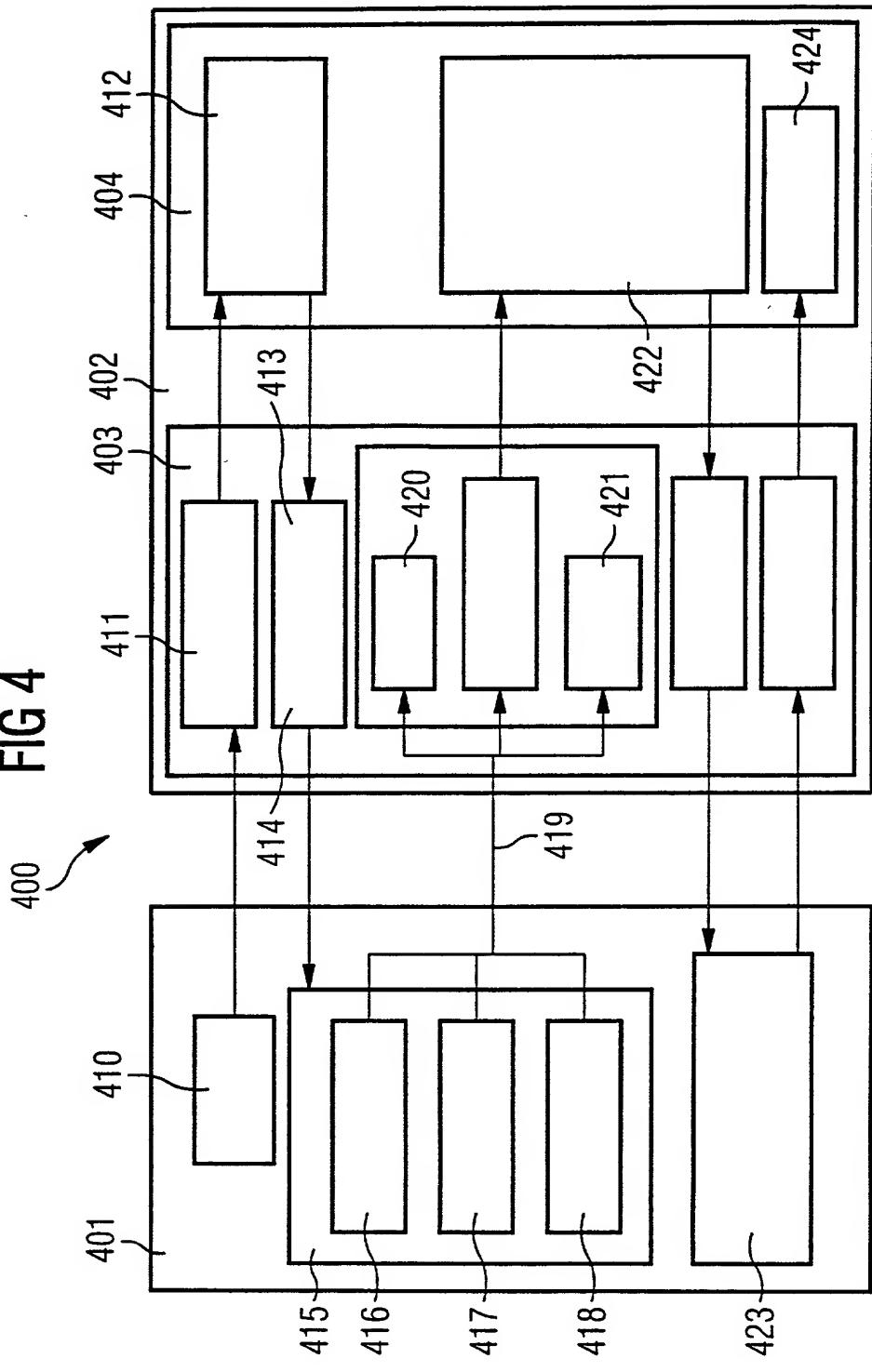
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FIG 3



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FIG 4



Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application
Erklärung Für Patentanmeldungen Mit Vollmacht
 German Language Declaration

Als nachstehend benannter Erfinder erkläre ich hiermit
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Antrag gestellt wird und für den ein Patent beantragt
wird für die Erfindung mit dem Titel:

**Verfahren und Anordnung zur
Überprüfung einer Authentizität eines
ersten Kommunikationsteilnehmers in
einem Kommunikationsnetz**

deren Beschreibung

(zutreffendes ankreuzen)

hier beigefügt ist.

am 31.05.2000 als

PCT internationale Anmeldung

PCT Anmeldungsnummer PCT/DE00/01788

eingereicht wurde und am _____
abgeändert wurde (falls tatsächlich abgeändert).

Ich bestätige hiermit, dass ich den Inhalt der obigen
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Ich beanspruche hiermit ausländische Prioritätsvorteile
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As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are
as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only
one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint
inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the
subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent
is sought on the invention entitled

**Method and system for verifying the
authenticity of a first communication
participants in a communication network**

the specification of which

(check one)

is attached hereto.

was filed on 31.05.2000 as

PCT international application

PCT Application No. PCT/DE00/01788

and was amended on _____

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the
contents of the above identified specification, including
the claims as amended by any amendment referred to
above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is
material to the examination of this application in
accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations,
§1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35,
United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s)
for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have
also identified below any foreign application for patent
or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that
of the application on which priority is claimed.

German Language Declaration

Prior foreign applications
Priorität beanspruchtPriority Claimed

<u>19927271.9</u>	<u>DE</u>	<u>15.06.1999</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Ja	<input type="checkbox"/> No Nein
(Number) (Nummer)	(Country) (Land)	(Day Month Year Filed) (Tag Monat Jahr eingereicht)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Ja	<input type="checkbox"/> No Nein
(Number) (Nummer)	(Country) (Land)	(Day Month Year Filed) (Tag Monat Jahr eingereicht)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Ja	<input type="checkbox"/> No Nein

Ich beanspruche hiermit gemäss Absatz 35 der Zivilprozeßordnung der Vereinigten Staaten, Paragraph 120, den Vorzug aller unten aufgeführten Anmeldungen und falls der Gegenstand aus jedem Anspruch dieser Anmeldung nicht in einer früheren amerikanischen Patentanmeldung laut dem ersten Paragraphen des Absatzes 35 der Zivilprozeßordnung der Vereinigten Staaten, Paragraph 122 offenbart ist, erkenne ich gemäss Absatz 37, Bundesgesetzbuch, Paragraph 1.56(a) meine Pflicht zur Offenbarung von Informationen an, die zwischen dem Anmeldedatum der früheren Anmeldung und dem nationalen oder PCT internationalen Anmeldedatum dieser Anmeldung bekannt geworden sind.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §122, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

<u>PCT/DE00/01788</u> (Application Serial No.) (Anmeldeseriennummer)	<u>31.05.2000</u> (Filing Date D. M. Y) (Anmeldedatum T. M. J)	<u>anhangig</u> (Status) (patentiert, anhangig, aufgegeben)	<u>pending</u> (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
		<u>(Status)</u> (patentiert, anhangig, aufgegeben)	<u>(Status)</u> (patented, pending, abandoned)

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